

Message Text

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ACTION INR-05

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 PRS-01 PM-03 SP-02 EA-06 RSC-01

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R 231100Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2119

INFO USIA WASHDC

CIA

AMEMBASSY PHNOM PENH

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

USSAG NKP THAILAND

USDEL JEC PARIS

S E C R E T SAIGON 858

LIMDIS PSYOP MESSAGE

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, VS

SUBJECT: SAIGON NORTH VIET-NAM COMMITTEE REPORT,
DECEMBER, 1974

1. VOICE OF FREEDOM (VOF) BROADCASTS: INCREASED FIGHTING IN SOUTHERN PART OF SOUTH VIET-NAM PROMPTED HEAVY CRITICISM OF HANOI LEADERSHIP'S REFUSAL TO "RELINQUISH VIOLENCE AND ACCEPT NEGOTIATIONS" AS MEANS OF SOLVING SVN'S PROBLIMS. VOF WARNED THAT PEACE CAN BE RESTORED IN VIET-NAM ONLY WHEN COMMUNISTS RESPECT TERMS OF PARIS AGREEMENT. EDITORIAL MATERIAL AND COMMENTARIES FOCUSED HEAVILY ON DRV'S INCREASING INTERNATIONAL ISOLATION. POINTING TO RECENT RVN DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES AND STATEMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR GVN POSITION, INCLUDING RECENT ASIAN PARLIAMENTARIAN UNION RESOLUTION CALLING FOR END TO NORTH VIETNAMESE AGGRESSION, VOF WARNED THAT UNLESS HANOI CHANGES ITS WAYS IT WILL RISK COMPLETE ISOLATION BY COMMUNITY OF SEA NATIONS. VOF ALSO TOOK NOTE OF CIRCUMSTANCES OF BRITISH AMBASSADOR'S DEPARTURE FROM HANOI AND CRITICISED DRV FOREIGN POLICY AS "IMMATURE". DRV PROPAGANDA SURROUNDING

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NVA PEOPLE'S ARMY DAY OCCASIONED VOF OBSERVATION THAT

HANOI'S EFFORTS TO IMPROVE ITS ARMY AND PARTY'S CURRENT AGGRESSIVE PLANS ARE INCONSISTENT WITH NEED TO PROVIDE BETTER LIVING CONDITIONS FOR NORTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE. IN COVERAGE OF CHRISTMAS ACTIVITIES IN SVN, VOF DEPLORED CONTINUED WAR-TIME ATMOSPHERE AND ECONOMIC PRIVATION IN NORTH AND CALLED FOR NATIONAL RECONCILIATION.

2. CONTENT ANALYSIS OF VOF EDITORIAL MATERIAL AS FOLLOWS:

LIFE IN THE SOUTH, 20 PERCENT; LIFE IN THE NORTH, 18 PERCENT; COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS AND AGGRESSIVE INTENTIONS, 14 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, 11 PERCENT; RVN DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES AND INTERNATIONAL (INCLUDING U.S.) SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE, 10 PERCENT; GVN MILITARY PROWESS AND DETERIORATING COMMUNIST MORALE AND FIGHTING ABILITY, 7 PERCENT; NATIONAL RECONCILIATION, 4 PERCENT; AND OTHER (NONE MORE THAN 3 PERCENT), 16 PERCENT.

3. SIGNIFICANT INCREASE IN COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS DURING PERIOD OCCASIONED CHARGES BY GVN MEDIA THAT COMMUNISTS HAD REOPENED "GENERAL OFFENSIVE." MEDIA CONTRASTED COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA DEMANDS FOR PEACE AND NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WITH BLATANT SEIZURE OF SEVERAL DISTRICT TOWNS IN PHUOC LONG PROVINCE AND PROSECUTION OF MEKONG DELTA "RICE WAR." HEAVY FIGHTING ALSO PROMPTED CALLS FOR GREATER "NATIONAL UNITY TO STRENGTHEN REAR AND SUPPORT FRONT-LINE FIGHT." ALL MEDIA LAID HEAVY EMPHASIS ON RVN PRESIDENT THIEU'S NOVEMBER 21 DEMAND THAT COMMUNISTS RESUME NEGOTIATIONS. COMMUNIST FAILURE TO RESPOND WAS CONDEMNED AS BETRAYAL OF POPULAR ASPIRATIONS AND CLEAR INDICATION OF NORTH VIETNAMESE REFUSAL TO ABANDON PLANS TO TAKE OVER SOUTH BY FORCE. COMMENTARIES AND REPORTAGE REPEATED NUMEROUS STATEMENTS OF INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT FOR GVN POSITION, INCLUDING EDITORIAL COMMENT FROM U.S. NEWSPAPERS CALLING FOR INCREASED U.S. ASSISTANCE TO RVN. ALTHOUGH DOMESTIC POLITICAL TURBULENCE DECREASED, MEDIA CONTINUED TO CRITICIZE THOSE WHO "BLINDLY FOLLOW PLOTS OF COMMUNISTS AND COLONIALISTS" AS TRAITORS TO THEIR COUNTRY. END OF YEAR EDITORIAL MATERIAL PREDICTED CONTINUED FIGHTING IN 1975 BUT AVERRED THAT SOUTH VIETNAMESE PEOPLE'S RESOLVE WOULD FOIL COMMUNIST PLANS AND AGGRESSIVE DESIGNS.

4. CONTENT ANALYSIS OF GVN PROPAGANDA (BOTH VTVN AND PRINTED SECRET

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OUTPUT) YIELDED FOLLOWING BREAKDOWN: COMMUNIST CEASE-FIRE VIOLATIONS, TERRORISM AND REOPENING OF GENERAL OFFENSIVE, 22 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENTS, 15 PERCENT; INTERNATIONAL (INCLUDING U.S.) SUPPORT AND ASSISTANCE, 12 PERCENT; DOMESTIC ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT 9 PERCENT; NATIONAL UNITY AND POPULAR RESOLVE TO DEFEAT COMMUNISTS, 7 PERCENT; DEMAND THAT COMMUNISTS RESUME NEGOTIATIONS, 7 PERCENT; RVN DIPLOMATIC SUCCESSES, 6 PERCENT; SOCIAL WELFARE PROGRAMS, 6 PERCENT; POLITICAL STUDY

MOVEMENT TO DEFEAT COMMUNISTS "DECEITFUL PROPAGANDA", 5 PERCENT;
AND OTH
(NONE MORE THAN 3 PERCENT) 11 PERCENT.

5. VOA PROGRAMMING: BROADCAST FEEDS FROM POST DURING PERIOD
INCLUDED AS MAJOR REPORTAGE: PRESS CONFERENCE OF DR. NGUYEN VAN
HAO, NEW GVN DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER IN CHARGE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOP-
MENT, ON NATIONAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT POLICY; FOREIGN

MINISTRY COMMUNIQUE ON COMMUNIST TERRORISM AND DESTRUCTION OF
PUBLIC UTILITIES; ACTIVITIES OF RVN DELEGATION TO WORLD FOOD
CONFERENCE IN ROME; (:8 85 59 975# ;835-NAM OF CENTRAL AFRICAN
REPUBLIC FOREIGN MINISTER; CAHOLIC ARCHBISHOP NGUYEN VAN BINH'S
CHRISTMAS APPEAL FOR RESTORATION OF PEACE IN VIET-NAM; AND US ONE
MILLIONVNVN-UNICEF AGREEMENT TO PROVIDE BETTER HEALTH CARE FOR
SVN CHILDREN.

6. COVERT RADIO ACTIVITY IS REPORTED SEPARATELY.
MARTIN

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